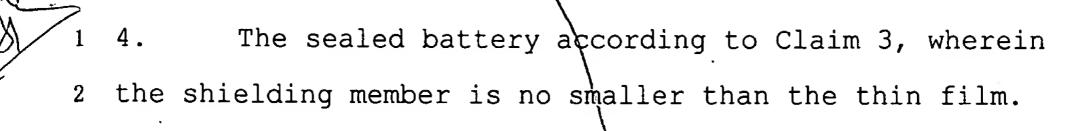
## What is claimed is:

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- 1 1. A sealed battery, comprising:
- a generator element that is an electrode group
- 3 impregnated with electrolyte;
- 4 an external casing that has an opening and
- 5 encloses the generator element;
- a closure cap for sealing the opening, the closure
- 7 cap having a gas release valve that is formed by covering
- 8 a gas release hole in the closure cap with a thin film;
- 9 and
- a shielding member that is located between the
- 11 thin film and the generator element to protect the thin
- 12 film from the electrolyte so as to secure a gas channel
- 13 from an internal space of the external casing to the gas
- 14 release hole.
- 1 2. The sealed battery according to Claim 1, wherein a
- 2 space is provided between the shielding member and the
- 3 thin film to allow gas to flow from the internal space of
- 4 the external casing to the gas release hole.
- 1 3. The sealed battery according to Claim 2, wherein
- 2 the shielding member is a plate set in parallel with the
- 3 thin film.



- 1 5. The sealed battery according to Claim 1, wherein
- 2 the shielding member prevents electrolyte that escapes
- 3 from the generator element from perpendicularly hitting
- 4 the thin film.
- 1 6. The sealed battery according to one of Claims 1 to
- 2 5, wherein
- an insulating member is set between the generator
- 4 element and the closure cap so as to electrically separate
- 5 the generator element and the closure cap, and
- the shielding member is held by the insulating
- 7 member.
- 1 7. The sealed battery according to one of Claims 1 to
- 2 5, wherein
- an insulating member is set between the generator
- 4 element and the closure cap so as to electrically separate
- 5 the generator element and the closure cap, and
- the shielding member is attached to the insulating
- 7 member.
- 1 8. The sealed battery according to one of Claims 1 to
- 2 5, wherein,

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- an insulating member is set between the generator
- 4 element and the closure cap so as to electrically separate
- 5 the generator element and the closure cap, and
- the shielding member and the insulating member are
- 7 integrally formed.